The Lions' Pride

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President Trump: Top Five Changes

By Brian Cerosky
Contributing Writer

Donald Trump, sworn on Jan. 20 as America's 45th President, has already made some big changes to some controversial issues in his first week in office.

Often regarded as his more popular stance, Trump during his campaign trail often spoke very negatively of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), which was meant to be a free trade agreement between North American nations and developing Asian countries. Its mission, according to the Office of United States Trade Representative website, is to "promote economic growth; support the creation and retention of jobs; enhance innovation, productivity and competitiveness; raise living standards; reduce poverty in the signatories' countries; and promote transparency, good governance, and enhanced labor and environmental protections."

The agreement was signed by all twelve member counties in early Feb. 2016, however, the treaty can no longer be ratified due to Trump's executive order, signed on Jan. 23, which will effectively enable America to withdraw itself from the agreement. Trump stated many times that free trade agreements, like NAFTA, resulted in many jobs moving overseas and leaving America worse off than before.

Another major change from Trump was seen with the passage of two controversial bills vetoed by Obama: the approval for construction of the Keystone XL pipeline as well as the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAP). Both proposals were protested against by environmental groups and the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of Native Americans, as the DAP, in particular, trespasses on sacred tribal land. Pipelines have been reported to have leaked oil numerous times over the years, with the most recent one being a pipeline running through the state of Iowa on Jan. 25 of this year, leaking over 130,000 liters of oil into the surrounding landscape. However, Trump and pipeline proponents alike cite economic benefits and the creation of supposedly thousands of jobs as being worth the potential risks to the environment.

In addition to approving the pipelines and no doubt angering environmental protesters in that regard, Trump also ordered the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to suspend all the grants the agency gives out to fund pollution monitoring, education, and environmental research in the country. In addition, Trump also ordered the Departments of Agriculture, Health and Human Services, and the Interior from talking to the press or updating their social media accounts.

Trump also reinstated the Mexico City Policy, which prohibits the US from donating to any charity that which offers abortions or other contraception services overseas. Trump further broadened the measure by defunding the prevention of HIV/Aids as well as treatment for the disease, maternal and child health, nutrition, and domestic violence programs. The result of the initiative may lead to the death of more than 21,000 women worldwide, according to Mari Stopes International, which is a non-government organization that provides family planning services in mainly the United Kingdom but also in other countries around the globe. This measure is a part of Trump's promise on the campaign trail to restrict access to abortions.

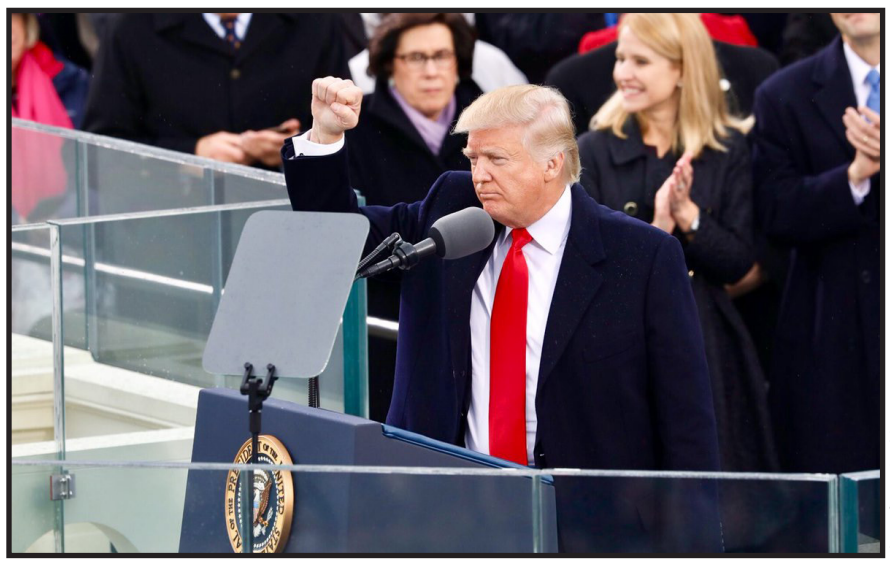

Photo from @WhiteHouse

Trump gave his inauguration speech in front of 31 million people in attendance as well as those online and on television - a 19% overall decrease from 2009.

In stark contrast to the previous administration, Trump has made it clear from day one of his run for office that the media was biased and that much of it is dishonest. This became evident a few days after his inauguration, where Trump's inauguration crowd was reported to have been much smaller than the one seen for Obama in 2009 as side-by-side comparison photos were produced by multiple media outlets following inauguration day. Trump denies the evidence put forward by the media and had instead claimed that the crowds were up to 1.5 million, all gathered to see him sworn in as the 45th President.

This was exacerbated during the subsequent press conference when White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer denounced the media as false and it had been a largely successful and widely watched inauguration. Kellyanne Conway, advisor to Trump, stated that Spicer was simply giving "alternate facts," defending Spicer's denial of the smaller crowds and suggesting that the media's evidence is irrelevant.

Lastly, Trump committed to his long-time promise of building a wall on the Mexican-American border by issuing an executive order on Jan. 25 which intends to immediately begin its construction. Trump had promised that Mexico will "reimburse" America for the construction, which is cited as being in contrast to his earliest promise of making Mexico pay for it directly. It is assumed, then, that Trump will rely on taxpayer dollars to pay for construction, which will require the approval of Congress. It is estimated that the final construction costs may total upwards of $25 billion, according to Bernstein Research, a private Wall Street research and brokerage firm that tracks the costs of materials.

In addition to the wall, Trump also signed an action that will strip funding from cities that are "sanctuaries for undocumented immigrants." The following day, President of Mexico Enrique Pena Nieto canceled his diplomatic summit with Trump.

Trump has a lot more left on his plate despite these changes and intends on tackling his campaign promises one at a time. Trump's State of the Union address will be given early next year where by then it will be interesting to witness what Trump's policies in his first year brought to America and what he has left to accomplish.

Photo from @realDonaldTrump

Trump also signed a minor executive order against Obamacare that was criticized as being unclear.

Editorial

Is the Driver's License Test Too Easy?

By Rafal Matuszczak
Staff Writer

According to the Department of Transportation, there were 27,875 fatalities from motor vehicle crashes on U.S. roads throughout the first nine months of 2016. This report indicates that the number of people who died is nearly 8 percent higher than it was during the same period in 2015.

The increase in fatalities is not an issue that occurred in 2016 only, though. According to CNN Money, the number of fatal crashes in 2015 increased by 7.2 percent when compared to 2014. Although the study indicates that the roads are still much safer than they used to be decades ago, the increase in fatal crashes seen in 2016 is the largest gain in the last 50 years.

Some people might wonder how many people actually died, though. The New York Daily News indicated that there were 27,875 deaths during the first three quarters of 2016, which is more than 2,000 more when compared to the 25,808 deaths that occurred in 2015.

Nevertheless, the primary issue is not how many people have actually died, but what causes the number of deaths to increase each year.

"We still have to figure out what is underlying those lives lost. If it were simple, we would already know that," said National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Administrator Mark Rosekind to the New York Daily News. Rosekind's words clearly indicate that the problem has not been solved.

There are many reasons that could explain the number of crashes on our roads, but none of them have yet to confirm the cause of the number's increase each year.

"It's a very complex system, you can never say emphatically it's these two or three things," stated Director of Statistical Reporting at the National Safety Council Ken Kolosh to CNN Money.

Problems such as drunk driving, texting while driving, and speeding have all existed before; so they do not explain why more and more people die on U.S. roads with each passing year. Nevertheless, the number of deaths might be shocking for some people, and finding the reason why there are more of them each year could be the first step to solving the problem.

It is also possible that neither the distracting activities nor driving under the influence is causing the problem. Instead, the driving could be an issue in and of itself, as drivers might not possess adequate skills that could help them avoid dangerous situations when they arise.

The root of such an issue would then be the process of obtaining a driver's license. If drivers cannot drive well enough to avoid crashes, the process of acquiring a license might simply be too easy.

The Orlando Sentinel used Finland as an example of a country with low accident rates even with their often very dangerous driving conditions due to the region's climate. Unlike in the U.S., obtaining driver's license is a relatively long process in Finland. The Sentinel indicates that to be eligible to apply for the driver's license permit, you must complete a driving course that takes place over several weeks, requires prospective drivers to train on various surfaces, and pass both a theory and a driving test.

After completing these steps, a minimum of six months must pass before the person is permitted to take a driving test, which has to be passed in order to obtain the license.

The Sentinel also indicates that the country has a very strict law enforcement system as well. Having seat belts fastened is required for each of the passengers and if the driver is driving while intoxicated, their blood alcohol concentration level cannot be higher than .05, or else they are arrested and their license is immediately revoked.

However, having the rules might not be the key to making people safe but rather enforcing them as Finland does. Police can stop cars just to conduct random controls in order to check whether or not the drivers are following the rules.

Perhaps such a process makes drivers think twice before they decide to break the law, which causes the number of crashes in the country to be low as a result. It is possible that adopting some of Finland's rules for obtaining a driver's license and better enforcing the law could help the U.S. lower the increasing number of fatal crashes.

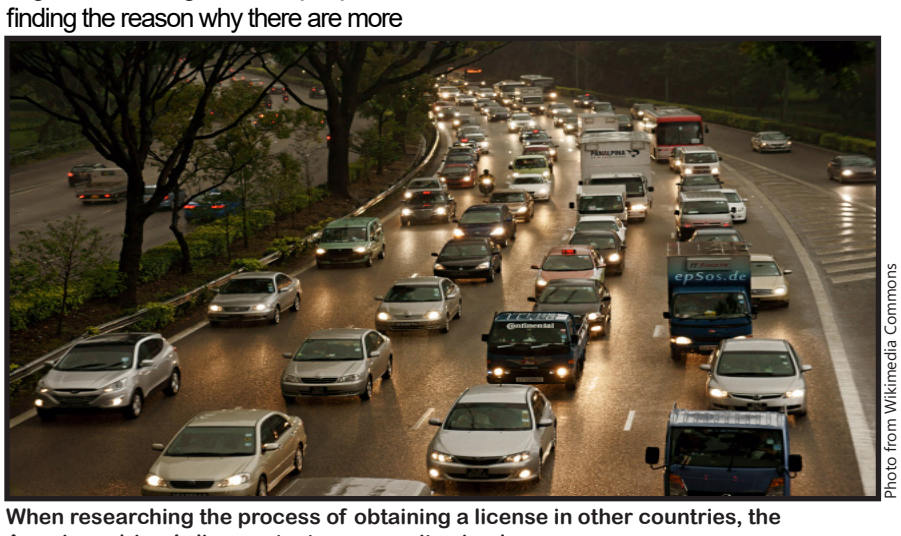

Photo from Wikimedia Commons

When researching the process of obtaining a license in other countries, the American driver's license test seems quite simple.

Here's what you missed online this week at www.prideonlinedot.wordpress.com

Saint Leo Goes Green

Photo by Kiely Hyunh

Thanks to the Green Dot Program, Saint Leo is taking the next step in keeping its students and its campus safe. To find out more about this program and how to get involved, read the full story online.

California Bans Plastic Bags

Photo by Nicolas Nova

California is the first state to officially ban plastic bags. To learn more about this ban and the environmental effects of plastic bags, read the article.

Bees on Endangered Species

Photo by Katja Schulz

A certain species of bees was listed as endangered. To learn about this and the role bees plays in the environment, read the article online.

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Campus News

A Walk to Remember

By Emily Kochanski
Campus News Editor

On Jan. 27 and 28, two talented Saint Leo students delivered one of the most powerful performances seen since the opening of the Black Box Theater. Sam Stokes, a senior and history major, and Richard Ocampo, a sophomore dramaturgy major, starred in Lee Blessing's iconic play "A Walk in the Woods," a production that's been a long time coming.

The decision to perform this beloved play was a collaborative decision between Stokes and Alicia Corts, the assistant professor of theater.

"When we were in acting class in fall of 2015, his final scene was from 'A Walk in the Woods.' We chose it together, and we raised the stakes by saying 'if you do this scene really well, then we'll do this as your show. We'll do this as your senior showcase,'" Corts said.

"A Walk in the Woods" tells the story of two arms negotiators who take the discussion away from the negotiation table and into the woods of Geneva, Switzerland. In the midst of wartime talk, Russian Andrey Botvinnik and American John Honeyman develop a unique and powerful friendship.

Stokes was no stranger to the role of Botvinnik, but for Ocampo, such a dramatic play and the role of Honeyman were a step in a new direction.

"I think that it was a big step forward out of my comfort zone. I like comedic roles, and this one was much more serious. I'm starting to play those serious roles much better now," Ocampo said.

Both Stokes and Ocampo were very confident in their respective performances and proud of the hard work that went into bringing their characters to life.

"I feel like I did great! This is the first time I've ever been able to do an accent on stage, and I was able to hold my Russian accent throughout the entire play. It was so new and so refreshing; I felt like I was a different person. It was amazing!" Stokes said in his well-rehearsed Russian accent.

Much like Andre Botvinnik and John Honeyman, Sam Stokes and Richard Ocampo developed a stronger relationship by working together. The strong friendship that grew between these two young men is reflected in their emotional and genuine renderings.

"Before this, Sam and I didn't know each other that well. We'd worked together in 'A Murder is Announced,' but all he did in that was interrogate me and yell at me, and my response was to run away and shut the door. But after this, we became very good friends," said Ocampo.

"We're bros!" Stokes said.

Though the show was a rousing success, it was not without its complications. Due to serious medical complications that befell Stokes last semester, the duo's rehearsal time was extremely limited. Because of this, Stokes and Ocampo spent much of the second act with their script in their hands. Corts described the show as, paraphrasing a line from the play: "A failure, but a successful one."

As a first time assistant director, Lois Martinez, a junior dramaturgy and psychology double major, had a lot to say about the production. "My hopes for this show were not really high. The actors were not off-book, so I had no idea how this was going to end. But I trusted that they were good actors and that they were going to do their best, and they proved me wrong. They did a wonderful job and I'm very proud of them."

With or without the scripts, Stokes and Ocampo wowed the audience that night.

"I think their acting is stupendous," said Corts. "Some of the moments in this show were the best that I've directed at Saint Leo so far."

Both Stokes and Ocampo are hoping to return to the stage in Saint Leo's next big production, the musical comedy "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Putnam will be the first musical performed in the newly constructed Black Box Theater, as well as the first musical that Corts will direct since beginning her career at Saint Leo.

Putnam is expected to run for the first two weekends in April. Corts also promises that the drama department will be producing a musical every year and all aspiring actors and actresses are encouraged to audition.

Photo by Kadyann Stupart

Among the impressive number of attendees was Saint Leo's President, Dr. William J. Lennox, who was delighted by the show's powerful message and each actor's incredible talent.

Photo by Kadyann Stupart

"A Walk in the Woods" inspired Richard Ocampo to consider a two-man show for his own senior showcase; perhaps the musical comedy "Murder for Two."

Photo by Kadyann Stupart

Sam Stokes (left) chose "A Walk in the Woods" as his senior showcase. Richard Ocampo (right) was specifically chosen by Dr. Alicia Corts at the end of his Freshman year to star alongside Stokes.

Photo by Kadyann Stupart

The production raised over two hundred dollars in donations from patrons, which Sam Stokes requested be generously donated to the Make a Wish Foundation.

National

Main Campus' and Centers' Student Veterans Collide

By Randawnique Coakley
Worldy Education Editor

Photo from Military Affairs and Services

The students who attended the conference in Anaheim, CA are from either the undergraduate or graduate tracks in the following centers: South Hampton Roads, San Diego, The Center of Online Learning, and the Adult Education Center.

It is not often when students from University Campus connect with those from the other centers. However, from Jan. 5 to 8, with the 2017 Student Veterans of America (SVA) National Conference at Anaheim, CA, 13 students from the centers and the main campus were able to connect with one another.

This is the first time that Saint Leo University Student veterans, Active military, and ROTC student cadets attended this conference or even a conference at this scale. The conference was a venue for the students at the centers and main campus to interact and the students who attended the conference were thrilled with their experience.

"As a graduate student in the new MA program in Creative Writing, our cohort only meets once a year for our week-long campus residencies. Since the remainder of the time is independent study, I really don't get to interact with other SLU students. This was also the case when I took classes toward my BA degree at the MacDill and Channelside centers in Tampa, where there was no real interaction with other students outside of the classroom," said Jennifer Harman, student veteran, U.S. Navy. "Participating in an event like this gave me the opportunity to really connect with other SLU students, but specifically with fellow veteran students. In a very short time, we formed lasting friendships, and have continued to keep in contact with each other since."

Along with students from main campus, the Saint Leo students, who attended the conference, hailed from a variety of centers: South Hampton Roads, San Diego, The Center of Online Learning, and the Adult Education Center.

Since the conference was an opportunity for these students from the centers and university campus to interact, one of the students who attended the conference, John Morgan, a student at the Adult Center and US Army Retired, talked about a chapter of Omega Delta Sigma, a military fraternal organization, being established for Saint Leo. Morgan, who will be the president of the chapter, explained that in an effort to interact with the centers more, the organization will invite those from the centers to future events and have virtual meetings.

Along with Morgan and Harman, many other students enjoyed their experience, like Alexas Casillas, a junior majoring in Healthcare Management who is also a military family member on University Campus.

"Our first impression was interesting. Most of us were so tired and met up at 5:00am to go to the airport. But after we got to meet everyone it was happy and joyful. We all had great conversations and really bonded," said Casillas. "A few nights we ate dinner together, gave advice to each other, and now we have some amazing memories from the conference. Today, we are all still communicating whether that [is] because of Student Veterans of America, Omega Delta Sigma [a military organization], or because we all came back with friendships."

This three day conference was attended by approximately 1,400 fellow student veterans and military from Student Veterans of America (SVA) chapters all over the country for the annual conference.

"This event was an opportunity to bring our Saint Leo SVA chapter representatives together from Main Campus and from our Centers to learn from other SVA chapters and fellow student veterans and to discuss best practices for SVA chapters and how to work together to assist with transition from the military. The combination of guest speakers, workshops and topics of interest to student veterans plus the Career fair and ability to work with recruiters and personnel who are experts in LinkedIn and resume writing for example was a great benefit to students," said Director of the Office of Military Affairs and Services Colonel (Ret.) Pamela Martis.

In addition, Casillas said that there were a variety of sessions at the conference, with topics ranging from resumes and interview tips to scholarships and leadership in clubs on campuses to even problems that exist in the military today. Also, the conference was beneficial as it addressed challenges some veterans and military, who may be older or even parents, face returning back to school, as Harman states. Harman also said additional focuses of the conference included: "making courses more accessible & accommodating during deployment; obstacles women veterans face in education & leadership; navigating scholarships, internships, VA benefits; post graduate opportunities in career & education; SVA resources."

The conference was a fascinating and an immersive experience for those who attended. In fact, each of the SVA chapter members, who attended the conference, will present a three to five minute presentation in Feb. about their experience.

"US veterans have a bond that is simply unique to us, because we thoroughly understand how hard it is to raise your right hand and vow to fight for this country. It was also so welcoming to meet so many people looking for the same goal, to continue to be good productive people in our society," said Norman Wildamen, a senior majoring in Computer Science who is also a veteran of the United States Air Force.

As Wildamen suggests, there is a bond between those who serve. Also, it is definitely difficult for veterans and active duty service members to transition from working in the military to civilian life and returning to school, and Saint Leo University provides many supportive services to its student veterans and military.

"The moment I stepped foot on campus last semester I was greeted with what Saint Leo could do for me as a student veteran. Because of our great leadership here our Student Veterans of America organization is growing and thriving while making great efforts to do what it can for our veterans," said Wilderman.

Saint Leo plays a major role in the lives of student veterans, military-affiliated students and those who are still on active duty. IIt is evident in the number of awards that Saint Leo has earned in the area of supportive services and programs for student veterans and military at Main campus and all of our centers. The University has also been recognized for many awards for 2017: Best For Vets by *US News And World*, Top Ten Gold Military Friendly by *Victory Media*, Best Online Program For Vets by *US News And World*, and Top School by *Military Advanced Education & Transition.*

National

Women's March

By Allison Cobb
Distribution Manager

On Jan. 21, the Women's March occurred, a historic protest that has not only gained the attention of Americans, but citizens from around the globe. Although dubbed the Women's March, men and women, young and old, all came out to march in the major cities throughout the world in solidarity of the women's rights. Many have been using this march as a protest for not just women's rights, but also their political views. Being the day after President Trump's inauguration, emotions were bound to be charged.

The Women's March, also called The March on Washington, was organized originally via a Facebook event. According to *The Washington Post*, the first person credited for creating an event is Teresa Shook, a woman from Hawaii who was upset after the results of the election. It quickly spread, and eventually what started as a Facebook event had its own website. Although it started small, the event eventually grew into a worldwide march, and the numbers were staggering. Over 5 million people marched in protest on Jan. 21. At least 500,000 filled the streets in Washington D.C, and hundreds of thousands filled the streets in other major cities around the world. The event spanned from D.C, to Seattle, to even places like Sydney, Australia.

With an event this large, and this controversial, there were bound to be mixed feelings and opinions on what the march was intended to accomplish. Though called the Women's March, it largely served as a protest against the new President. Many women around the world expressed their fear of their rights being stripped, while others stood in support of these women, and made promises of protection.

Jenna Greenfield, a freshman majoring in English, while in support of the march, had some issues with it.

"While it's important to organize events like the women's march, it's also important to make the events open and welcoming for transgender people, people of color, and immigrants. The women's march was really exclusionary."

Others, felt as though the entire event was unnecessary in the first place. Many women across social media platforms, like Facebook and Instagram, have been writing posts about how they don't feel unequal, and don't see the need for the protest.

Photo from @womensmarch

Tons of women and men came together to march in support of women's rights around the world, with those marching having signs depicting their personal thoughts on current world events.

Regardless of the varying opinions on the Women's March, both NBC News and Fox News have credited the Women's March as one of the largest nonviolent protests in history, not just in America, but in tons of other countries. Fox News had some qualms with certain things, like vulgar signs, but nonetheless, at the end of day in D.C, no arrests had been made.

Several celebrities also spoke in Washington, like Scarlett Johansson and Madonna, preaching the integrity of nonviolence.

Protesting has been both supported and scorned by the general public, and within the last few years has had a negative connotation tagged onto it, due to the destruction that has often come along with it. Some have questioned its usefulness or its point.

The biggest goal of the Women's March was to give those who participated, or supported it, a voice. The ability of these millions of people to voice their opinions, without violence, is something to celebrate.

What next for this movement? On the Women's March website, they have '10 actions, 100 days'. Every ten days, they have a plan to do something about their beliefs. The first is to write to your senators about what matters to you.

Pay Rate Between Men and Women

By Niclas Bez
Staff Writer

On the day after the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, there were women marches all over the country. From Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, to the biggest one in Washington D.C. thousands of women, but also men, participated in the marches that had the goal to raise awareness for women rights. One of the point that was mentioned by many protestors was the gender wage gap.

The gender wage pay is the difference between the average total full-time earnings of men and women. A report from April 2016 of the Joint Economic Committee, also called JEC, states that based on the yearly median annual earnings in the United States a woman only makes 79 cents on every dollar earned by her male counterpart.

"Women on average make 79 cents for every dollar a man makes. What folks will tell you sometimes is you can't really compare the situation, because a lot of women, by choice, end up working less when they have kids, decide to stay home, and so it's not the same thing. However, there are still examples where women are paid less doing the exact same job," said former president Barack Obama during a town meeting in 2014.

President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law on June 10, 1963. The act states that men and women need to receive equal pay for "substantially equal" work at the same organization. In addition, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination that is based on someone's gender, national origin, race, or religion.

This brings up the question how there can still be unequal pay, even though it is against the law. When taking a closer look at how the numbers are calculated it shows that economics are not factoring in career choices and hours worked. According to statistic from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the wage gap is only 18 cents when looking at the weekly wages and only 13 cents when looking at the hourly wages. Factoring in this data, it shows that the common measurement is flawed because men work on average more and are less likely to take off for parental leave.

"Social learning theory can apply to career choices. For example, if a girl grows up in a home in which the mother has a career that may be atypical for women, she may also choose a career in a male-dominated field. Children learn through observation and career choice may stem from what they have observed in their home," said Dr. Tammy Lowery Zacchilli, who is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Saint Leo University.

Aside for social learning theory, Zacchilli suggests that another reason for different career paths can be attributed to the type of paths typically chosen by different genders.

"As Berk (2014) points out in her developmental psychology text, women tend to have discontinuous career paths while men have more continuous career paths. This difference occurs because women may choose to take time off while raising a family or they may delay their careers or education until after their children are older," said Zacchilli. "Men may take some time off for the birth of a child but they typically do not take as much time off as the woman. Women may also choose careers, such as teaching, that allows them to be home with their families on the weekend or during school breaks."

In addition, as reported by The Washington Post, a survey from the Georgetown University about the economic value of college degrees showed that women dominate nine out of the ten least paying college majors. Some of these majors include early childhood education, social work, communication disorders sciences and service, in which women represent 97, 88, and 94 percent of the degrees.

On the other hand, the study unveiled that men dominate nine out of the ten college degrees that promise the best future salary. These majors include many kinds of engineering, mathematics, and computer science. The highest percentage of men can be found in naval architecture and marine engineering with ninety-seven percent.

"There continue to be some differences in the career choices of men and women. Some areas such as childcare, nursing, and administrative assistants continue to be female-dominated careers while other areas such as construction, automotive occupations, and operating engineers tend to be male-dominated," said Zacchilli.

The reason for this can not only be found in people's specific talents, but also in their psychology and what motivates them. A Rochester Institute of Technology study showed that money is the prime motivator for 75 percent of men, while only 95 percent of women said so.

"I think both men and women can be motivated by money and praise in the workplace. Men and women both want respect from supervisors and likely are motivated by a positive atmosphere. I don't think there are any major differences in motivation due to gender but other factors can certainly influence motivation in the workplace," said Zacchilli.

A survey from 2007 by the Consad research corporation showed that when bringing it down to the hourly wage women still earn about five percent less than men. This research shows that the wage gap is less than twenty-two percent, but the question still arises whether a gender wage gap is acceptable in a country that stands for opportunity and equality.

Arts & Entertainment

Losing the Greats

By Stephen Skipper
Contributing Writer

Many have said that 2016 was one of, if not, the worst years in recent memories. There was the attack on the Pulse nightclub in Orlando that took the lives of 50 people, the turmoil of the election season, and, of course, the countless big name celebrities that were lost. People from all walks of life left us this past year: actors, musicians, athletes, even political leaders. No one was safe from the year of 2016.

The first of note to be lost, was musician David Bowie, passing from liver cancer at age 69. Performing for over five decades, he is recognized as one of the world's best-selling musicians with 11 number one albums and nine platinum certifications, being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1996. Just four days later, actor Alan Rickman, known for his role in the Harry Potter franchise as Severus Snape, also lost his battle with cancer.

In April, the world lost the artist known as Prince to a drug overdose, bringing tragedy to his career. Prince was not the only one to have his life cut short.

Two bright young stars were taken far too soon this past year. The first was music artist Christina Grimmie, who was shot and killed following a concert in Orlando at just 22 years of age. The second was Miami Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez who died in a boat crash at only 24. Both had their whole lives and careers ahead of them, and things were looking bright when tragedy struck.

The sports world lost another great in June with the passing of boxing legend Muhammad Ali, one of the leading heavyweights of the twentieth century and an inspiration to others. Alongside boxing, the professional wrestling world also had some heavy losses this past year, including "The Ninth Wonder of the World" Chyna and longtime manager, Mr. Fuji.

One of the most polarizing deaths was that of the Cuban revolutionary, Fidel Castro. Many celebrated his passing as the dawn of a new age for Cuba and hope of the country finally making advancements. Once he had passed, then-president Barack Obama opened the doors for Americans to travel to Cuba for the first time in nearly 60 years.

Arguably the most difficult season was around the holidays. A day after Thanksgiving, Ron Glass, best known for his role in the cult science fiction show, Firefly, died from respiratory failure, though that was only the beginning. On Christmas Day, itself, singer George Michael died in his home at just age 53 from undetermined causes. The hits just kept on coming as two days later, Star Wars icon Carrie Fisher passed away from a heart attack she suffered four days previously. The very next day, Fisher's own mother, Hollywood legend Debbie Reynolds, lost her life due to complications from a stroke, ending the year on a truly somber note.

Death is a given. It comes to all of everyone, but that does not mean it will not hurt when the time comes. 2016 was especially difficult to get through with death taking stars left and right. All these greats and the many more that had been lost over the course of the year of 2016 will be missed with heavy hearts. One can only hope that 2017 will be kinder in sparing those people hold dearly in their hearts.

Upcoming Events

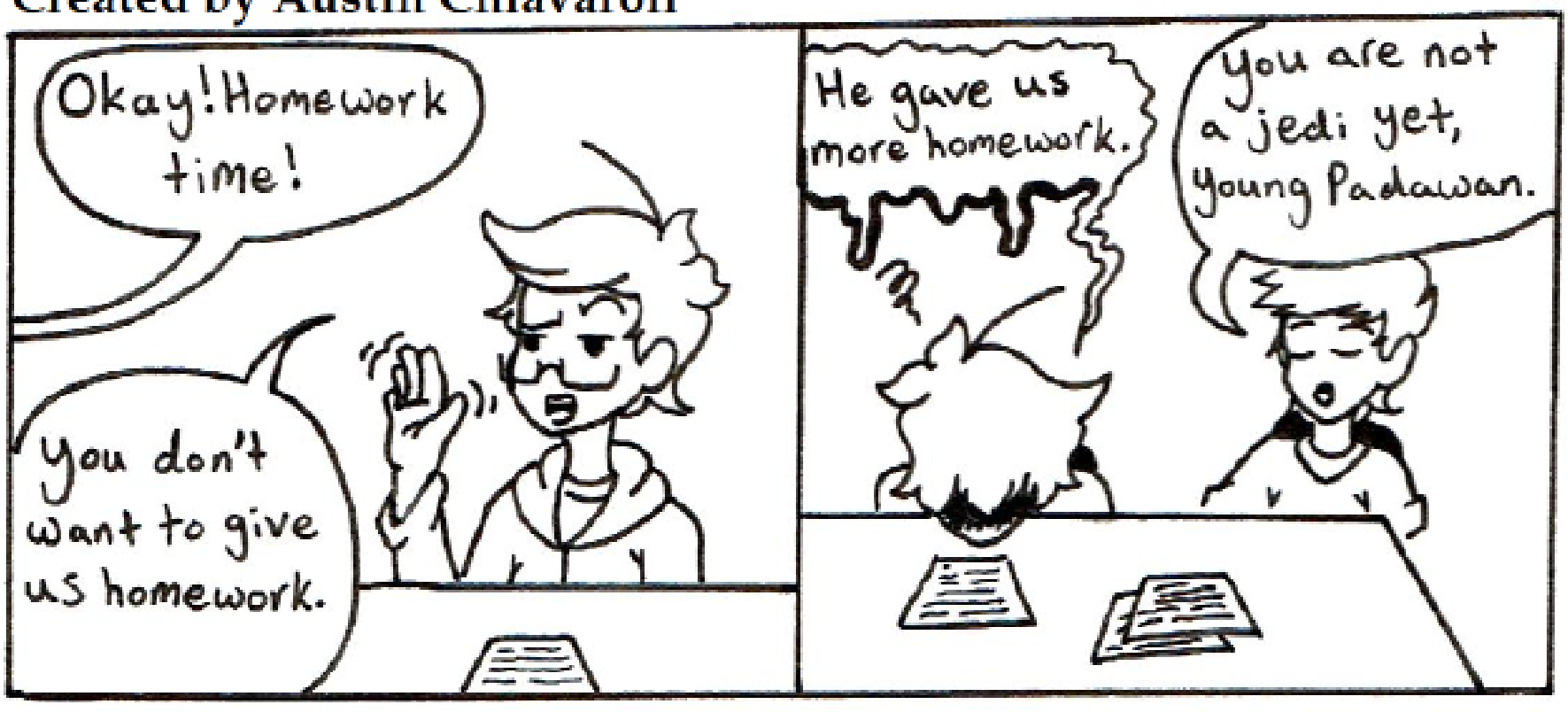
Moonlight and Ivory Concert
Date:
2/4 @ 2 PM - 7:30 PM
Location:
Dade City Woman's Club, Dade City
Contact:
HACA 813-469-3659
Price:
$15 - $25
Description:
Moonlight and Ivory is put on by the Heritage Arts Center Association, featuring a concert, art exhibition, and gourmet coffee and desserts during intermission.

Farm Fest and Quilt Show
Date:
2/4 @ 9 AM - 4 PM
Location:
15602 Pioneer Museum Rd, Dade City
Contact:
Pioneer Florida Museum & Village 352-567-0262
Price:
Starting at $5
Description:
Quilt show, draft horse pull competition, venders, "The Way We Worked Smithsonian Exhibition," arts and crafts, petting zoo, syrup making, music, and more activities.

College Days

Created by Austin Chiavaroli

"The Homework Mind Trick"



Arts & Entertainment

A Return to Form

By Travis Farmer
Contributing Writer

Photo from @RelyonHorror

"Resident Evil 7: Biohazard" had an interesting marketing campaign, including sending VCR tapes to prominent online celebrities associated with the series and a secret demo.

The long awaited installment in Capcom's award winning game franchise "Resident Evil," "Resident Evil 7: Biohazard," released on Jan. 24 to a warm reception. The game is the eleventh in the main "Resident Evil" line-up and the twenty-fourth overall. The game is out for PlayStation 4, Xbox One, and the PC. PlayStation Virtual Reality also supports the game though the PlayStation VR headset.

The core gameplay of "Resident Evil 7" focuses on exploration, combat, and puzzle-solving, and this truly where it feels like an older "Resident Evil" game. Unlike the action adventure romps of "Resident Evil 5" and "Resident Evil 6," this game makes the player feel scared instead of powerful.

This is the first mainline "Resident Evil" game where the game takes place in a first-person perspective as opposed to third person or through fixed camera angles. There were many criticisms that this point of view would ruin the atmosphere; however, it did quite the opposite. The first person perspective allows for the player to feel tension while still have full control. One downside, however, is that the player never actually sees their character, causing a lack of familiarity that was in the previous installments, of which some of the most recognizable characters appear.

The game plays like any other first-person horror game, such as "Outlast" or "Amnesia," but with the addition of combat. Unfortunately, the controls are a bit sluggish at the default, the player's movement, and perspective lags. The latter problem can be fixed by bumping up "Camera Acceleration" in the options, but still leaves a bit to be desired.

The game is also playable in virtual reality with the PlayStation VR headset; however, critics have panned this mode, preferring to just play with a standard monitor and controller. The headset mode makes the game very hard to control, giving it almost a jerky feeling, as well as a sense of motion sickness to the player.

Much like the older titles in the series, you must find a Typewriter, or in "Resident Evil 7," a tape recorder, to save and quit the game. This game also sees the return of a limited inventory system and item boxes, that are interconnected storage boxes, allowing the player to store their unwanted supplies and old puzzle items. While a limited inventory and the boxes may seem like an annoyance, it means the world to players who have played "Resident Evil" games for twenty years and miss some of the core gameplay features.

The game is aesthetically pleasing, if a horrifying gore landscape could be considered, but is nothing to write home about. While not taking any significant graphical leaps, the game still manages to look decent. It does seem to take some art design inspirations from similar properties, such as "The Evil Within," "Blair Witch Project," or "True Detective."

The game makes use of sound design, utilizing tricks many other first person horror games have perfected recently. The player is placed in a creaky abandoned house, hearing footsteps moving throughout the house or the shuffling of papers and pipes on the floor, these elements work together to create tension, which helps build up for the inevitable release when something happens.

The plot is relatively straightforward at the beginning, outlined as a man looking for his missing wife. Ethan, whose wife disappeared three years ago. One day, Mia, his wife, mysteriously sends him an e-mail that gives a location and as Ethan searches for his wife, he finds himself in a nightmare. It is unknown how the game may connect to the other titles in the "Resident Evil" franchise, especially considering the enemies in "Resident Evil 7" appear to be paranormal, compared to the entirely biological horror themes of the series in the past.

In conclusion, "Resident Evil 7: Biohazard" is a return to form for the series, following the incredibly weak and widely panned "Resident Evil 6." Capcom solved the previous installments' problems and created a game that can be loved by many. "Resident Evil 7" truly feels like a first person perspective version of any older "Resident Evil" title, which is one of the largest compliments a fan of the series can give.

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Sports

The Swimmers Conclude Regular Season

By Rafal Matuszczak
Staff Writer

Jan. 27, Tampa, Fla. - Saint Leo University Swimming teams concluded their last competition before the Sunshine State Conference Championships that will take place in Orlando, Fla. on Feb. 16. While their opponent, the University of Tampa Spartans, managed to defeat the Lions on the men's side, they were not able to do it on the women's side.

During the meet, Saint Leo Men's Swimming won 10 out of 14 individual events. Nevertheless, the Lions lost the meet overall, as their scored 128-134 against Tampa. Despite the loss, the meet was fulfilled with significant performances as two Lions managed to hit the "B" qualifying standard for the NCAA National Championships.

Lucas Dengler-Harles, sophomore, won two events in which he participated. Not only did he win the 100 Freestyle with a time of 46.00 seconds, but also he won 1000 Freestyle with a time of 9:20.06, which is a qualifying standard for Nationals.

Another Lion who managed to win two events that day was a Junior, Jan Urbaniak, who came in first in the 500 Freestyle with a time of 4:36.29. The time is a second NCAA National Championships qualifying standard. Urbaniak's second victory of the day was in 200 Butterfly where he won the even with a time of 1:56.40.

Nevertheless, there were three more Lions each of which won two individual events, including Juniors Hunter Bains and Milosz Mikicin, as well as a Freshman Henrik Dahrendorff.

On the women's side, the Lions managed to defeat Tampa with a score of 140 while their opponent scored 122 points. The women won 11 out of 14 individual events, and similarly to the men, two Lions hit the "B" qualifying standard for the NCAA National Championships.

Nicole Weber, senior, was one of the most successful Lions during the meet. Not only did she win three events, but also she managed to achieve the qualifying mark for Nationals in 200 Breaststroke as she came in first with a time of 2:17.82.

"My main goal at the beginning of the season was to make it to nationals in my individual race and also with the relay," sad Weber.

As "B" standard does not guarantee a spot on the list of competitors that are allowed to take part in the National Championships, it is still not clear whether the swimmers will participate in the competition.

"It's not 100% sure that I achieved that goal yet," added Weber.

Weber also won 100 Breaststroke in a time of 1:05.65, and the 200 Individual Medley with a time of 2:09.22.

The last of the qualifying standards was captured by Junior Natalia Garriock, who hit the time of 2:17.82 in the 100 Free while winning the event. However, it was not the last victory for Garriock, as she managed to win the 200 Free with a time of 1:54.61.

Charlie Langner, freshman, and Maftuna Tuhtasinoa, sophomore, each won two individual events, as well. With the addition of the Lions' victories in both of the relays that were scheduled that day, Saint Leo defeated Tampa.

The meet was the Lions' last competition before heading to Orlando, Fla. to compete with the best teams in the Sunshine State Conference during Sunshine State Conference Championships.

As the conference is one of the most competitive in the country, the Lions might have a difficult task ahead of them. Last year, both the Men and Women teams finished the competition in fifth place. The only athlete who managed to win the championships individually was Daniel Bis, a graduate, who later in the season finished fifth during the NCAA National Championships.

The championships will also be the Lions' last chance to hit qualifying standards for the national championships. Not only is it important for the team, but also individual swimmers would like to conclude their season with the meet.

"After qualifying for nationals four times as an individual I also want to enjoy my last American swim meet at NCAA's," said Weber.

As the season progresses, stay tuned to the Lions' Pride Newspaper to receive more information about the Saint Leo Swimming Teams.

Upcoming Games for the Week of 2/3/17 - 2/10/17

Baseball

2/3: Vs West Alabama 6 PM
2/4: Vs West Alabama 3 PM
2/5: Vs West Alabama 12 PM

M Lacrosse

2/3: #7 LIU Post 7 PM

Softball

2/4: Vs Chadron St @ Eckerd Tournament 1:30 PM
2/4: Vs Fla. Southern @ Eckerd Tournament 4 PM
2/5: Vs Chadron St. @ Eckerd Tournament 10:30 AM
2/5: Vs Eckerd @ Eckerd Tournament 12:30 PM

W Basketball

2/4: @ Barry 2 PM
2/8: Vs Lynn 5:30 PM

M Basketball

2/4: @ Barry 4 PM
2/8: Vs Lynn 7:30 PM

W Golf

2/5: Vs Flagler World Golf Invitational
2/6: Vs Flagler World Golf Invitational

M Tennis

2/5: Vs Lander 10 AM
2/8: Vs Florida Tech 3 PM

Men's Basketball Beats Tampa for Third Straight Win

By Niclas Bez
Staff Writer

On Jan. 28 the Saint Leo Men's Basketball team took down the University of Tampa on their home court for their third straight victory. Just three weeks ago the Lions lost to a talented Tampa team on the Spartan's home field.

For the most part the game was very close with big efforts from both teams to stop each-others strong offensive players. Then, in the last ten minutes the Saint Leo team got on a streak scoring twenty points, while pressuring Tampa's offense.

The Lions' defense was a key to success in this low scoring game. In the last ten minutes of the game, they held the Tampa Spartans back to only free throws, which gave them the edge that it took to win.

Justin Satchell was the highest scoring player for the Lions with nine-teen points followed by Tyreece Brice and Antoine Tobias with thirteen and ten points. Marcus Dewberry, who previously earned an SSC athlete of the week award, scored ten points as well.

"I am really proud of our guys tonight and the effort they gave. We played lock-down defense down the stretch and that's what helped us take down a talented Tampa team. To keep a team from making a field goal in almost 10 minutes, truly shows how hard our guys have been working on executing and paying attention to the details," said Saint Leo's head coach Vince Alexander.

Overall, the Lions have a season score of 10-10 and a 4-6 in the Sunshine State Conference. Next up the Lions will have more conference games, where they will be facing Florida Southern, Barry, and Lynn University. These last games will be important in order to qualify for the post season tournaments of the Conference and the South Region.

Photo from @SaintLeoMBB

The team captains are preparing for the last couple of games of the 2016-'17 basketball season.